

Suffolk City Landfill

Suffolk, Virginia
Superfund Program Site Fact Sheet

Type of Facility:	Solid Waste Landfill
Contaminants:	Arsenic and Chromium
Funding:	Enforcement funded

Site Description and History

The Suffolk City Landfill (Hosier Road Landfill) is a 67-acre parcel east of Hosier Road in the City of Suffolk, Virginia. The City of Suffolk operated the landfill from approximately 1967 to January 1985 as a sanitary landfill by Permit No. 310 issued by the Virginia Department of Health. Municipal wastes were disposed in the unlined landfill and advanced the final grade to approximately 20 to 30 feet above the undisturbed ground level.

Current surface water features at the landfill include drainage ditches, a detention pond, and a retention basin. Water flows intermittently from the detention pond into an unnamed stream found north of the landfill. This stream is joined by another unnamed stream, found east of the landfill.

The landfill permit was reissued in June 1983. Pursuant to the reissued permit, the city was required to close the landfill when the regional landfill became operational. While preparing for the closure plan, the city discovered documentation showing that "several tons" of pesticides had been disposed in the landfill in 1970. The disposed pesticides damaged by a fire at the Dixie Guano Company, included Disyston, Cu7 Sulfure, 7 Sulfure, Thimet, and Cyanox. Available information does not show consistent design and dimensions of the pesticide disposal pit. Most of the pesticides were treated with lime to promote hydrolysis processes that break down the pesticides. Currently, an impervious plastic layer covers the pesticide disposal area. The cover measures approximately 100 feet by 36 feet. In 1988, the city covered, graded, and replanted the landfill.

The site was proposed to the National Priorities List (NPL) in June 1988, placed on the list in February 1990, and deleted in January 1995. In June 1989, the city signed an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ). The AOC required the city to implement a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and a Temporary Leachate Collection Plan (TLCP) to prevent further migration of the leachate from the site. The TLCP was

implemented and operated by the city's Department of Public Works. The RI/FS lasted from April 1991 through September 1992. The RI revealed low-level ground water contamination involving arsenic and chromium in an area found immediately down gradient of the site. The study did not detect any pesticide contamination. Scientific information on pesticides shows these substances are prone to degrading naturally over time.

Threats and Contaminants

The ground water was contaminated with low levels of arsenic and chromium. Potential health hazards included ingestion or direct contact with contaminated ground water underneath the site.

Current Site Status

The Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in September 1992. Based on the findings of the RI, it was concluded there is no significant contamination migration occurring at the site, therefore, the no-action alternative was selected. The ROD also requires yearly ground water monitoring to ensure continued protection of human health and the environment. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) deleted this site from the NPL on January 24, 1995. A five-year review was performed on the site in August 1999.

Community Relations

The Community Relations Plan was drafted in 1989 and updated in 1991. Community Workshops were held throughout the RI/FS period, and citizens expressed interest in learning more about Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs). Although a TAG workshop meeting was held, a TAG application was not submitted. On September 3, 1992, a public meeting was held to present the Proposed Plan and answer questions from community members.

VDEQ Representative	Information Repository
Thomas D. Modena, P.E. Remedial Project Manager Virginia Department of Environmental Quality P.O. Box 10009 Richmond, Virginia 23240-0009 (804) 698-4183, Fax (804) 698-4234 E-mail: tdmodena@deq.state.va.us	Morgan Memorial Library 443 W. Washington Street Suffolk, VA 23434 (804) 934-7686